

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Wolfinbarger, et al.

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Application No.: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: August 29, 2001

Att'y Dkt. No.: 58772.000004

Title: PLASTICIZED BONE AND
SOFT TISSUE GRAFTS, AND
METHODS OF MAKING AND
USING SAME

**REQUEST BY APPLICANTS FOR INTERFERENCE
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.607 AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application identified in caption as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following paragraph prior to the first paragraph at page 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a division of Application Serial No. 09/107,459, filed June 30, 1998, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-32 without prejudice or disclaimer

Please add the following new claims:

--33. (New) A method for treating monolithic bone intended for implantation to conserve the mechanical strength of the bone during lyophilization and subsequent

Per Amends #2

106280-5150400

Q1